

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1874.]

(22)

SELECTED EXTRACTS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
OUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 4th April, 1874.

POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

The *Najm-ul-Akhbar* of the 16th March, in a communicated article, remarks that the only way to put a stop to thefts, which have now become so common, is to revive the Act under which zemindars were held responsible for the detection of thieves within their villages.

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the 19th March has an article on horse-racing. The editor desires Government to pass a special law against this abuse, which is a form of gambling and a voluntary endangering of life and limb.

The *Benares Akhbar* of the same date would have the municipality take care that the coaches and ikkas from which the wheel tax is collected be kept in good repair. The municipality should also regulate the loading of ferry boats and boats of burthen.

The same paper asks Government to provide some help for the respectable poor of these Provinces, who are now suffering from the dearness of grain caused by the large export to Bengal. The suspension of decrees of the Civil Courts is especially recommended, and the precedent of former times of scarcity is quoted.

The *Koh-i-Núr* of the 21st March thinks that the great fair which is yearly held in the Shalamar Gardens at Lahore would furnish an excellent occasion for a public exhibition of the arts and manufactures of the Punjab.

The *Akhbár-i-Anjuman-i-Punjab* concurs in this opinion.

The *Punjábi Akhbár* of the same date says that a diminution has been made in both the number and the pay of the officials of the Punjab Postal Department. For instance, the pay of the Deputy Postmasters of Khooshab and Bherah in the Shahpore district has been reduced from Rs. 30 and Rs. 40 to Rs. 10 and Rs. 15 respectively, and that of the Deputy Postmasters of Puttee and Choonian in the Lahore district from Rs. 20 to Rs. 10 ; while Gholam Ahmed, District Overseer, and Pandit Pran Nath, Sub-Inspector, have lost their places altogether. The editor thinks that the servants of Government in the Post-office are dishonest enough already, and need no further temptations in the shape of diminished salaries.

The *Oudh Akhbár* of the 24th March says that Seth Guj Mull, a well-known gentleman of Ajmere, has been sentenced to a year's rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1,000 for having by mistake drawn the same sum of money from the Government Treasury twice over. The money was refunded the next day, but to no purpose, and the Seth's appeal to the Commissioner was not more successful. The alarm among Ajmere Native gentlemen is great, and the common opinion is that some private grudge is at the bottom of the matter.

The same paper praises the Government of India for offering to make advances to enable poor cultivators to replace the bullocks they have lost by disease, &c. This resolution of Government should be published in every village, and the lists of cultivators who need advances should be submitted by putwarees to tuhseeldars, for the Deputy Commissioner's approval.

The *Motla-i-Núr* of the same date, in its local news column, tells of a theft of Rs. 700 worth of property from

the house of the late Darogah of Abkaree in Cawnpore city. The pecuniary reward given to the Darogah by Government was among the property stolen. The thief has not been found.

The *Khair Khwah-i-'Alam* of the 25th March is of opinion that there should be some fixed rule as to the receiving of petitions in the Courts. At present, the signal for the presenting of petitions is usually the cry of a peon or mohurrir of the Court; and any one who is so unfortunate as to come late with his petition has to wait till the next day, or, in case of an intervening holiday or the sickness of the Magistrate, for several days. It would be better to have a box for the receipt of petitions hung on the outer wall of each Court, to be opened daily at a fixed hour, of which notice should be given to petitioners by ringing a large bell half an hour before.

[The *Benares Akhbár* of the 26th March praises Sir William Muir and laments his departure :--

(1.) He was a zealous friend of education. He introduced cheap State education, and his prize notifications were the cause of the production of scores of excellent books,

(2.) He was an enemy of the income-tax.

(3.) The land settlements which were made during his administration were not very severe, and the cultivators, though not yet sufficiently protected, will derive advantage from Acts XVIII. and XIX. of 1873, towards which he contributed so much.

(4.) His disposition was mild and generous, and his manner unassuming and free from pride. The people of the North-Western Provinces will be very happy to see him again on his return from furlough in the ranks of the public service of India.

Sir George Campbell comes off equally well. The writer has known Sir George Campbell since the time when he was Magistrate and Collector of Ghazeepore. It was not expected that he would return to India after quitting the post of

Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, but his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal must be regarded as exceedingly fortunate. He encouraged Hindoo by making it the language of the Courts. He gave an impulse to education. He looked unfavourably on the zemindaree system. It was not his fault that so rigorous a settlement was made with the talookdars of Oudh in Sir William Wingfield's time. He was a good friend of the Mahomedans, and an excellent ruler on the whole, whatever people may say.

India can ill spare two such men at such a time.

The *Kavi Vachan Sudha* of the 30th March, writing just before His Honor's departure, takes quite a different view of Sir William Muir's administration.

The editor clothes his criticism in the following pleasing imagery. In his walks abroad the writer lights upon a church-yard, where he finds a newly dug grave surrounded by a crowd of mourners. He is told that the aged ruler of the land of injustice is dead. An elegiac poet comes forward with a handkerchief full of onions and red pepper, and standing at the head of the grave applies the handkerchief to his eyes, which immediately fill with tears, while he recites the praises of the deceased as follows :—

“ You have left the land of injustice forlorn. Where shall we find another Governor who by two despatches will shake the foundations of landed property; who on the pretence of suppressing infanticide will give low caste chewkeedars the control of the zenanas of gentlemen; who will tax everything that can carry taxation; ruin the colleges of the Provinces to found a new college to his own glory; pamper Musalman education because Mahomedans murdered high European officers; deny to the Hindoo language the justice demanded by the unanimous voice of the native Press; and refuse mercy to all offenders until it was expedient to court popularity before departure? ”

The *Benares Akhbár* thinks that the cultivators of Shahunge, Jounpore, whose crops have lately been destroyed by hail, are entitled at least to a remission of Government revenue.

A correspondent of the *Hindú Prakásh* of the 27th March says that in Koothala, Thannah Mooreedkee (Lahore), there is a nullah which is held sacred by the Hindoos. Along the banks of the nullah are flights of steps on which women bathe naked, while loose persons of both sexes stand above and use filthy language. The place should be enclosed.

The *Koh-i-Núr* of the 28th March would have popular purchayets in the place of the present expensive and troublesome courts of law.

The same paper says that a Punjab officer, being indisposed, postponed a whole day's petitions till the next day, when he had them read atten in the morning, and, finding none of the petitioners present, dismissed them all. Some of them bore stamps worth Rs. 50 or 60. Such conduct as this merits the serious animadversion of Government.

The *Kavi Váchan Sudhá* of the 30th March believes that the public mind will not be tranquil until the British Government in India and the Government of Nepal publish for general circulation a declaration that the carts now collecting are meant to carry grain and fodder to Bengal, and not, as the popular rumour runs, to carry stores for a campaign in Nepalese territory. The rumour of war has caused a depreciation of the paper currency.

A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Umritsur, wishes that the municipality would look to the cleanliness of the city as strictly as to the collection of taxes. There is a great hole full of dirty water in the road to the mosque near the Lahore Gate. The municipality have often been asked to mend the road.

The *English Gazette* of the same date, in its columns of local news, blames the Moradabad police, who, on the report

of a madman, searched the house of Tafazzul Husain, a gentleman of that city, for the property lately stolen from the house of Nunhe Khan. As might have been expected, nothing was found. Several other innocent persons have been arrested on the charge of complicity in the theft.

The editor thinks it a great pity that the police are so slow to arrest the guilty, and so ready to harass the innocent.

The *Nur-ul-Absár* of the 1st April thinks it surprising that, in spite of the promises of Act X. of 1840 that no tax of whatever kind shall be levied from pilgrims at Allahabad, Gya, and Juggunath, taxes are collected in various shapes at the annual *Magh* Fair in Allahabad. This has often been noted by the native Press as a subject of complaint. Similarly, a poll-tax of one Goruckpooree pice was levied on pilgrims at the famous Ram Naumi Fair recently held at Fyzabad. No less than 700,000 tickets were issued by the Collector for this purpose. The Fyzabad fair comes fairly within the spirit of the Act, though not within the letter, as Fyzabad in 1840 was under the King of Oudh.

The editor remarks that such violation of solemn promises, especially of promises relating to religion, reflects great discredit on the Government, and lowers the worth of English laws in the eyes of the people.

The *Saiyed-ul-Akhbár* of the same date says that a carriage full of women was stopped by highwaymen near Daula in Mahrowlee (Delhi) and plundered, and the driver was wounded, and is said to have since died.

A similar highway robbery occurred in mouzah Selimpore in Shahdara. The Meerut police are busy in making inquiries.

POLITICAL (FOREIGN).

The *Majma-ul-Bahrain* of the 15th March says that Major Dennehy's superintendence of the Dholepore estate is much in Sir Dinkur Rao's favour, which is a pity. The old quarrel

between Sir Dinkur Rao and Doolhia Sahiba is well-known, and caused the removal of the Rao from office, on the recommendation of the Agent of the Governor General. The Rao has now, however, so ingeniously hoodwinked Major Dennehy, that he confidently counts upon that officer's assistance to avenge him of his enemies, to wit, Doolhia Sahiba and the old Sirdars of the state. He is, moreover, strongly supported by a faction in the council, who owe their seats to their hostility towards the reigning chief.

The *Akhyār-ul-Akhbár* of the 17th March adds that Sir Dinkur Rao lately distributed among the servants of his own party a sum of Rs. 50,000, which he had borrowed from a native banker in the name of the state. The rest of the servants of the state have been left unpaid and in much perplexity, from which they have vainly sought deliverance by an appeal to Major Dennehy, whom they visited in his own bungalow.

The *Akmal-ul-Akhbar* of the 22nd March states, on the authority of the *Panjábi Akhbár*, that Mr. Groves, Inspector of Post Offices, Jeypore Division, severely beat the Deputy Postmaster of Laharoo for not sending him a *dáli*. Some time before this the Inspector dismissed one of his subordinates for a similar fault.

The *Benares Akhbár* of the 26th March regrets to say that the prohibition of the sounding of the *sunkh* continues to be a grievance in the Rampore State (Rohilkund), despite the repeated remonstrances of the Press.

When the Nawab of Tonk put the Thakoor of Lava to death, the Government detached that talooka from the Nawab's dominions and gave it to another principality, at the same time passing an order that any territory which Government had granted, or might hereafter grant, to any native chief should be governed by the same laws as when it was under the English Government.

The Rampore ilaqā was formerly under the English Government, and by the above order the people of the ilaqā have a right to all the religious liberties which they enjoyed under English rule. We believe that Government has lately represented the matter to the Nawab pretty strongly, but has been deceived by false statements and a pretended compliance, which extended only to the removal of the prohibition in one or two places.

The case is a good instance of the folly of these grants of territory to native chiefs in reward of services. The people of the territory granted are never so happy as they were under British rule.

The *Akhbár-i-Anjuman-i-Panjab* of the 27th March has an article on the Puttiala Civil Service Scholarship. The editor regrets that since the foundation of the scholarship three years ago the Punjab has produced no one to take it.

It is still sadder to find that the Panjab Government has recently refused to undertake the management of the scholarship. The reasons of this refusal are—(1) that agreeably to section 6, Chapter III. of the Queen's mandate issued in the 33rd year of Her reign, all offices to which covenanted civil servants were alone eligible have been thrown open to natives of India; and (2) that under the conditions prescribed by the Maharajah the scholarship can be held only by a subject of the Puttiala state, whereas none but a natural-born subject of Her Majesty can be admitted to the Civil Service examination.

It is useless to discuss the worth of these excuses of Government for shirking its duty. The Maharajah had better take the management of the scholarship into his own hands, and cancel the condition of domicile in the Puttiala state. The scholarship should be open to all the Punjab.

The *Lauh-i-Mahfuz* of the same date has an article by a correspondent who is well versed in political matters. The subject is the ill-defined relation of native chiefs and princes

towards their subjects on the one hand and the Political Agent on the other. Two remedies are suggested :—

(a.) The laying down by Government of a *dustoor-ul-unil* which shall mark out distinctly the powers of native princes and the powers of political officers, in respect both of each other and of the subjects of the native states.

(b.) The establishment of an Anjuman or council of native chiefs within each Agency, who by their deliberations could redress abuses and put a stop to misgovernment in the territories of any one of their number.

The *Malwá Akhbár* of the same date says that the recent order of the Indore Government prohibiting the people of the city from leaving their houses after nightfall has proved of no use against theft, but has very effectually harassed the people. Rich and poor are alike liable to be stopped in the streets after dark and carried to the nearest police station ; it is impossible to get a doctor to come by night to visit a sick man or a woman in childbirth, be the case never so urgent ; and the bodies of those who die in the early part of the night cannot be carried out till the next morning ; to say nothing of the stoppage of the celebration of festivals, and of the reading of the Vedas and Puranas.

The *Koh-i-Núr* of the 28th March, under the heading "Gwalior," notices the murder of a traveller on the Nunour road by dacoits, who were Dholepooree Goojurs from the other side of the Chumbul. The dacoits also wounded a chowkeedar of the neighbouring police outpost, who offered to interfere with them.

EDUCATIONAL.

A correspondent of the *Agra Akhbár* of the 20th March points out the following defects in the education given in the Government colleges and schools :—

(1.) An hour of school time should be given to athletic sports. The want of this seriously affects the health of the scholars.

(2.) Care should be taken to improve the morals of the boys.

The *Koh-i-Núr* of the 21st March says that, owing to the conversion to Christianity of two more of the native boys

in the Mission School, Dera Ismael Khan, all the inhabitants of that city have withdrawn their sons from the school, and unanimously set up a national subscription school of their own, which already numbers 165 boys. The Mission School has been reduced to 30 boys, chiefly from other parts of the country.

The editor then passes to the general question of the attitude of Government towards Mission Schools, and gives it as his opinion that much unwarrantable encouragement is shown to these institutions.

The *Punjábi Akhbár* of the same date publishes a petition from the booksellers of Lahore begging Government to define clearly what is meant by an obscene book under the Act. The best oriental works, such as the *Guhistán*, *Bostán*, *Bahár-i-Dániš*, *Zulaikhá*, *Díván-i-Hafiz*, &c., contain some indelicate passages, yet these books have always been used in schools. Love tales are the commonest form of oriental literature, because they are ingeniously used as the vehicle of all kinds of instruction.

The *Najm-ul-Akhbár* of the 24th March is of opinion that the *Oordoo Course* for the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University for 1874, which has been compiled by Rajah Shiva Prasad, C.S.I., shows great want of taste and judgment. The compilation is full of false idioms and ungrammatical phrases and doggerel rhymes. The only part worth reading are the last nine pages, containing a description of the Taj.

The *Akhbár-i-Anjuman-i-Panjáb* of the 27th March wishes that the Punjab Government would take a lesson from the Government of the North-Western Provinces in the liberal treatment of the native press. The admirable usefulness of the native press is especially conspicuous in the Punjab, which is comparatively a young province, and is bordered on the west by barbarous tribes, among whom the civilizing power of the press would be the more effectual if it were supported by assistance from the State.

The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report :—

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPERS.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
1	<i>Satrachey Gazette,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Weekly,	March 3rd.	1874. March 23rd
2	<i>Muhibb-i-Hind,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 1st week	3rd
3	<i>Satrachey Gazette,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 10th	3rd
4	<i>Naiyir-i-Akhbar,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 12th	23rd
5	<i>Malwa Akhbar,</i>	...	Marathi,	Indore,	" 18th	1st
6	<i>Lawrence Gazette,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Meerut,	" 18th	23rd
7	<i>Muhibb-i-Hind,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 2nd week	25th
8	<i>Nasir-ul-Akhbar,</i>	...	Ditto,	Delhi,	" 15th	3rd
9	<i>Almorah Akhbar,</i>	...	Oordoo and Hindee,	Almorah, Loodhiana,	" 15th	23rd
10	<i>Majma-ul-Bahrain,</i>	...	Ditto,	Gwalior,	" 15th	25th
11	<i>Gwalior Gazette,</i>	...	Ditto,	Shahjehanpore,	" 15th	26th
12	<i>Anjuman Akhbar,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Moradabad,	" 16th	22
13	<i>Ingols Gazette,</i>	...	Hindee,	Delhi,	" 16th	22
14	<i>Oordoo Akhbar,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Jodhpore,	" 16th	23rd
15	<i>Mahrwar Gazette,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Meerut,	" 16th	23rd
16	<i>Najm-ul-Akhbar,</i>	...	Ditto,	Lahore,	" 16th	24th
17	<i>Mof-ul-Arim,</i>	...	Arabic,	Lucknow,	" 16th	26th
18	<i>Akhyaar-ul-Akhbar,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Ditto,	" 17th	22
19	<i>Astar-ul-Amrdr,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 17th	22
20	<i>Anwar-ul-Akhbar,</i>	...	Hindee,	Ditto,	" 17th	23rd
21	<i>Benares Akhbar,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Ditto,	" 19th	23rd
22	<i>Akhbar-i-Alam,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 19th	23rd
23	<i>Kashash Samachar,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 19th	26th
24	<i>Lawrence Gazette,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 19th	22
25	<i>Mayo Memorial Gazette,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 20th	23rd
26	<i>Adair-ul-Islam,</i>	...	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 20th	23rd
27	<i>Allygurh Institute Gazette,</i>	...	Oordoo and English,	Allygurh,	" 20th	23rd
28	<i>Shame-ul-Akhbar,</i>	...	Oordoo,	Lucknow,	" 20th	23rd

No.	Name of Newspapers.	Language.	Locality.	When Published.	Date.	Date of Receipt.
29	Sayyid-ul-Akhbar,	Oordoo,	Delhi,	March 26th	1874.	March, 24th
30	Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Punjabi,	Ditto,	Lahore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 24th
31	Leet-i-Maaliqiz,	Oordoo and Hindoo,	Moradabad,	" 20th	" 20th	" 24th
32	Mawid Akhbar.	Marathi,	Indore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 25th
33	Rajputana Social Science Congress Gazette.	Oordoo,	Jeyapore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 25th
34	Muir Gazette,	Ditto,	Meerut,	" 20th	" 20th	" 26th
35	Agra Akhbar;	Ditto,	Agra,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
36	Koh-i-Nar,	Ditto,	Lahore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
37	Meerut Gazette,	Ditto,	Meerut,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
38	Nir-ul-Anwar,	Ditto,	Singapore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
39	Oordoo Delhi Gazette,	Ditto,	Agra,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
40	Kahlil Khund Ambar,	Ditto,	Moradabad,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
41	Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Hind,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
42	Panjabi Akhbar;	Ditto,	Lahore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
43	Maqasid-ul-Akhbar,	Ditto,	Gurgaon,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
44	Muhabbat-i-Hind,	Ditto,	Meerut,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
45	Khair Khwah-i-Qudh,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
46	Akhbar-ul-Akhbar,	Ditto,	Delhi,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
47	Gwalior Gazette,	Ditto,	Gwalior,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
48	English Gazette,	Ditto,	Moradabad,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
49	Kavi Pathan Sudha,	Ditto,	Benares,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
50	Vriti Dhara,	Ditto,	Dhar,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
51	Dababai-i-Sikandari,	Ditto,	Rampore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
52	Karnamah,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
53	Anjuman Akhbar,	Ditto,	Shahjehanpore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
54	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar,	Ditto,	Bhawalpore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
55	Putkalla Akhbar,	Ditto,	Puttiala,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
56	Vidya Vilas,	Ditto,	Jummoor,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th
57	Marwar Gazette,	Ditto,	Jodhpore,	" 20th	" 20th	" 27th

No.	Name of Newspapers.	Language.	Locality.	When Published.	Date:	Date of Receipt.
95	Muhibb-i-Hind,	"	Oordoo,	Weekly,	March 4th week	1874.
96	Majma-ul-Bahrain,	"	Ditto,	"	April 29th	3rd
97	Khair Khwah-i-Oudh,	"	Ditto,	"	March 29th	1st
98	Akmal-ul-Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	"	April 29th	2nd
99	Gwalior Gazette,	"	Ditto,	"	"	2nd
100	Vritt Dhara,	"	Ditto,	"	"	2nd
101	Kavi Vachan Sudha,	"	Ditto,	"	"	2nd
102	Karnamah, ...	"	Ditto,	"	"	2nd
103	Inglis Gazette,	"	Ditto,	"	"	3rd
104	Pattiala Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	"	"	3rd
105	Anjuman Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	"	"	3rd
106	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	"	"	3rd
107	Oudh Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	"	"	3rd
108	Shola-i-Tur,	"	Ditto,	"	"	1st
109	Mather-i-Nur,	"	Ditto,	"	"	2nd
110	Nur-ul-Absar,	"	Ditto,	"	"	2nd
111	Samay Vinod,	"	Ditto,	"	"	1st
112	Saiyid-ul-Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	"	"	4th
113	Agra Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	"	"	4th
114	Ab-i-Hayat-i-Hind,	"	Ditto,	"	"	4th
115	Khair Khwah-i-Panjab,	"	Oordoo,	Weekly,	"	4th
116	Risah-i-Am,	"	Ditto,	Ditto,	"	4th
117	Jalwa-i-Tur,	"	Ditto,	Ditto,	"	4th
118	Mayo Memorial Gazette,	"	Ditto,	Ditto,	"	4th
119	Nasir-ul-Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	Ditto,	"	4th
120	Benares Akhbar,	"	Bindee,	Bi-monthly,	"	4th
121	Nur Afshar,	"	Oordoo,	Bi-monthly,	"	4th
122	Oudh Akhbar,	"	Ditto,	Bi-weekly,	"	4th
123	Nasir-ul-Islam,	"	Ditto,	Bi-monthly,	"	4th

ALLAHABAD :
The 22nd May, 1874.

SOHAN LAL,

Off. Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.